

# Arturia Microfreak MIDI editor

## User's Manual

v4.0.1

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NoraPatches 2022

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This Max4Live MIDI effect is a comprehensive MIDI CC editor for the Arturia Microfreak with a built-in device updater, colour theme selector, randomiser and morphing engine as well as a dedicated XY control pad. The device sends and receives MIDI CC messages only. The device is built to directly pass all MIDI messages through as well, not to accidentally block the MIDI signal chain on the given track in Live.

## **What's new? (4.0.1.)**

The device now always searches for an update on launch

Fixed device updater that wouldn't have given an actual prompt

Fixed displayed parameter names in Live's automation menu and lanes

Added Push/Push2 bank support

## PREREQUISITES:

- Microfreak fw v4.0.1.1376
- The synth has to be in "LOCAL OFF" mode\*
- Ableton Live 9/10/11 with Max4Live license\*\*
- Internet connection (only for device updater)

*\* Local mode OFF & Knobs send CCs ON*

*[refer to official Arturia Microfreak manual page 90]*

*\*\* Live 9/10/11 Suite OR any Live version + standalone Max license*

## HOW TO USE

The device should be placed on a MIDI track in Live.

It's up to you whether you want to manually configure the MIDI INs and OUTs on this track, then monitoring incoming audio on a new Audio Track

### OR

with applying External Instrument on a MIDI track and configuring the incoming audio to be monitored.

All the GUI elements are MIDI mappable and automation enabled, so you can either draw in automation curves and envelopes or use other M4L devices and other modulation sources such as LFOs and Envelopes. This allows you to create previously unachievable sounds.

Unfortunately, the manufacturer doesn't allow us to openly access how the MATRIX works and the synthesiser only sends out MIDI CC parameters, so I am unable to develop an automatic PRESET reflecting feature or any access to the MATRIX as of now.

Please note that I am trying to figure out a way in achieving this feature in a way, but I don't own the synthesiser - if you feel like contributing to the greater good, please do get in touch at [info@norapatches.com](mailto:info@norapatches.com)!

## DEVICE UPDATER

Holding down the SHIFT key and clicking on the NoraPatches logo will access my server and download the most recent version number. It then compares your local device number (coded in the M4L device) to the downloaded version and if there is a new update available it gives a prompt to my website.

In order to access the new version for free, you need to log in to GumRoad with the e-mail address you made the purchase with.

Please if you are facing any difficulties with re-downloading the device, get in touch at [info@norapatches.com](mailto:info@norapatches.com)!

## SKIN SELECTOR

You can select between a custom NoraPatches colour theme that tries to mimic the looks of the hardware and Ableton Live Responsive colour theme which will always be responsive to your Live Skin selected. This is purely for aesthetic reasons, there is no difference in the UI behaviour regardless of the selected skin.

## XY PAD

Any (one) if the parameters can be mapped to the X and Y axes to be controlled with the mouse on the pad GUI or by the number boxes, which can also be MIDI mapped and automation-enabled.

Because the individual parameter is still accessible with the corresponding dial, double-mapping is possible, as the dials themselves are also MIDI mappable and automation-enabled.

This can result in new and interesting timbre changes in sound that would be impossible without double-mapping.

If you try selecting the same parameter to be applied to the second axis\* that is already applied to the other axis, the device will set "Off" instead and keep the selected parameter to be applied to the axis it's been applied to already. This results in not letting the same parameter to be mapped to both axes at the same time.

## RANDOMISING ANG MORPHING

You can select a range (0-127) of randomisation to be applied to any of the selected dials. You can toggle any dial to be armed for Random/Morph or not by clicking the dots next to them. You can select all or none with their respective buttons as well. The randomisation range will be scaled to all dials respectively.

If you select Morph instead, all current values will be randomly adjusted by a few; the devices will choose to add or subtract a randomly generated number between 1 and 10 to the current value - for each of the selected dials respectively.

Morphing will apply the new numbers with all the in-between values over 500 ms.

## HOW DEVICE PRESETS WORK?

You can save or recall stored device presets. This doesn't equal to presets stored on the hardware itself, it's the M4L preset format for the GUI elements.

To save to a slot, hold SHIFT and CLICK on the slot.

To recall from a slot, simply CLICK.

To delete from a slot, hold ALT and SHIFT then CLICK on a slot.

The device attempts to save a JSON file which might be prompted (one JSON is already included) automatically every time you save your Live Project. If it's not able to autosave, it will give a prompt.

You can SAVE and LOAD these JSON preset files by clicking on their respectively labelled buttons.

A single JSON file can contain many preset slots at once.